

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/FR 03/00207

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 F16L11/11

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 F16L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	GB 2 300 683 A (UPONOR LTD) 13 November 1996 (1996-11-13) page 9, line 15 - line 23; claims 3,4; figures	1-8
Y	EP 1 101 994 A (TOKAI RUBBER IND LTD) 23 May 2001 (2001-05-23) page 2, line 17 - line 19 page 3, line 35 - line 37	1-3,5,7, 8
Y	US 5 570 711 A (WALSH BRIAN J) 5 November 1996 (1996-11-05) abstract column 2, line 19 - line 28; claim 1 --- -/--	4



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

G document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

3 June 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 3 916 505 A (WHITE JOSEPH) 4 November 1975 (1975-11-04) abstract column 1, line 5 - line 12 ----	6
A	US 5 588 468 A (PFLEGER WOLFGANG) 31 December 1996 (1996-12-31) column 4, line 61 - line 63; claims 7,13 -----	1-5,7,8

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Information on patent family members

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